2011 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: **Venture Estates Mutual Water Company** Report Date: 06/10/2012

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal Regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2011.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Type of water source(s) in use: Well

Name & location of source(s): Well 3500552-001, @ 80 Harbern Way, Hollister, Ca

Drinking Water Source Assessment information: An assessment of the drinking water source for the Venture Estates Mutual Water Company water system was completed in September 2001. The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: Septic systems-low density. A copy of the completed assessment may be viewed at the following locations: Contact: Ca. Dept. of Public Health, Drinking Water Field Branch, 1 Lower Ragsdale Dr, Bldg 1, Ste 120, Monterey, CA 93940 831-655-6939

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: Annual meeting date and place is announced by mail. Check with a Board member (page 4) for other meetings.

For more information, contact Diana Cooley *Phone:* 831-634-0495

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs or MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS): MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Regulatory Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Variances and Exemptions: Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

ND: not detectable at testing limit

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic waste water discharges, oil and gas production, mining , or farming.
- *Pesticides and herbicides*, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the state Department of Health Services (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The Department requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

TABLE 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Microbiological Contaminants (to be completed only if there was a detection of bacteria)	**Highest No. of detections**	**No. of months in violation**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Typical Source of Bacteria**
Total Coliform Bacteria	(In a mo.) 0	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or *E. coli*	(In the year)0 0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or *E. coli*	0	Human and animal fecal waste

TABLE 2 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper (to be completed only if there was a detection of lead or copper in the last sample set)	**No. of samples collected**	**90th percentile level detected**	**No. Sites exceeding AL**	**AL**	**MCLG**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Lead (mg/L) 09/2010	5	0.00565	0	0.015	2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (mg/L) 09/2010	5	0.34	0	1.3	0.17	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

TABLE 3 - SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	**Sample Date**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**MCL**	**PHG (MCLG)**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Sodium (ppm)	11/2009	380	n/a	none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water
Hardness (ppm)	11/2009	330	n/a	none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water

Any violation of an MCL or AL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided below.

TABLE 4 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic (ppb)	11/2009	3.4	N/A	10	0.004 (N/A)	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Chromium (ppb)	11/2009	20	N/A	50	2.5 (N/A)	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	11/2009	0.45	N/A	2	1 (N/A)	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha radioactivity (pCi/L)	12/2010	4.64	3.10 – 4.64	15	N/A (0)	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	05/2011	<10	N/A	45	45 (N/A)	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Perchlorate (ppb)	05/2010	ND	N/A	6	6 (N/A)	Perchlorate is an inorganic chemical used in solid rocket propellant, fireworks, explosives, flares, matches, and a variety of industries. It usually gets into drinking water as a result of environmental contamination from historic aerospace or other industrial operations that used or use, store, or dispose of perchlorate and its salts.
Selenium (ppb)	11/2009	11	N/A	50	N/A 50	Discharge from petroleum, glass and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	09/11	6.4	10 - 32	60	N/A (N/A)	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs (ppb) * Total Trihalomethanes]	09/11	42	28 – 47 *	80	N/A (N/A)	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Turbidity (NTU)	11/2009	0.51	N/A	TT	N/A (N/A)	Soil runoff

TABLE 5 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Dissolved Solids* (ppm)	11/2009	1500	N/A	1000	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance* (micromhos)	05/2010	3100	N/A	1600	N/A	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Chloride (ppm)	11/2009	320	N/A	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (units)	11/2009	5.0	N/A	15	N/A	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Iron (ppb)	11/2009	150	N/A	300	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Sulfate (ppm)	11/2009	460	N/A	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

TABLE 6 - DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Chemical or Constituent	Sample Date	Level Detected	Action Level	Health Effects Language
Boron (ppm)	07/2004	3.3 *	1 ppm	The babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing boron in excess of the notification level may have an increased risk of developmental effects, based on studies in laboratory animals.
Vanadium (ppb)	07/2004	7	50 ppb	The babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing vanadium in excess of the action level may have an increased risk of developmental effects, based on studies in laboratory animals

We also tested for 62 volatile organic chemicals, including MTBE, in November 2008. We tested 21 Synthetic Organic Chemicals in February 2011. All items were reported below detectable levels.

Note: *There are no PHGs or MCLGs for constituents with secondary drinking water standards because these are not health-based levels, but set on the basis of aesthetics.*

******* *Any violation of an MCL or AL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided below.*

Additional General Information On Drinking Water

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Summary Information for Contaminants Exceeding an MCL or AL, or a Violation of any Treatment or Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

Total Dissolved Solids and Specific Conductance exceed the Secondary (aesthetic) drinking water standards. Some people find the taste of high dissolved solids water objectionable, yet similar high dissolved solids water is bottled and sold as "mineral" water. It is not economically feasible to lower the dissolved solids level at the central treatment plant. If you find the taste of high dissolved solids water unpalatable, you may prefer low dissolved solids bottled water (natural, deionized, reverse osmosis, distilled, purified) or can install treatment devices, available from many water conditioning companies, that reduce the dissolved solids of your tap water.

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) DID NOT EXCEED the primary (health related) drinking water standard: We have been testing quarterly. Feb2010 = 47 ppb, May2010 = 28 ppb,Aug. 2010 = 36 ppb, Nov 2010 = 28 ppb. Average=35 ppb TheDepartment of Public Health has moved Venture Estates to Annual Testing in September **The MCL is an annual moving average not to exceed 80 ppb, so the warm weather tests can cause over the limit levels.** TTHM formation is increased by high chlorine dose, high temperature and long retention times. Reducing the chlorine dose and retention time has produced better results. We will continue to test and hope that the connection to Sunnyslope Water District happens soon.

Venture Estates Mutual Water Company Information

The water company has 18 active metered connections and is chlorinated to maintain bacteriological quality. Troy Sicard, a T2/D2 Treatment & Distribution Operator maintains the treatment system, tests water quality weekly and, collects monthly lab samples.

Meters are read on the last Wednesday of each Month. Water statements are mailed around the 1st of the month and payment is due by the 25th of each month. Your total water cost includes Base and Reserve Fees (fixed) and a Usage Fee (per gallon). A late payment fee is added monthly to delinquent accounts.
Questions about water statements should be directed to S&S Financial Services (831) 628-3411.

Operating policies and fees are set by a volunteer Board of Directors who are elected each year at the annual shareholder meeting. Venture Estates MWC members serving their turn on the Board are:
Mark Dickson 831-636-7280 Diana Cooley 831-634-0495 John Jennings 831-637-4516